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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
03/295,690	04/21/99	MOUTON	J 081862.P122

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TM02/0830

EXAMINER	
FLEURANTIN, J	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2172

DATE MAILED:

08/30/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

## Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/295,690

Applicant(s)

Jerom A Mouton Jr. et al.

Examiner  
Jean Bolte Fleurantin

Art Unit  
2172



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on Reconsideration 06/19/2001

2a)  This action is FINAL.      2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

### Attachment(s)

15)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)      18)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

16)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)      19)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_      20)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-12 are remained for examination.

Applicant's arguments submitted on June 11, 2001 with respect to claims 1-12 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flynn, Rex A. et al. (Publication number 0 520 459 A2) ("Flynn").

As per claims 1, 5, and 9 Flynn substantially teaches a method of updating a message from a first version to an upgraded version by chaining through intermediate versions as claimed, comprises receiving an update message having a first version format (thus, earlier versions of index entries indicate changes that were made to the set of first identification tags, which is readable as receiving an update message having a first version format) (see col. 6, lines 3-5). But, Flynn does not explicitly indicate the step of repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most recent version format based on the update message until a final update message having an upgraded version format is generated. However, Flynn implicitly shows step of the set of all first identification tags for information objects which had the descriptor assigned

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to them during indexing is logically stored with that index entry, this set of first identification tags is versioned, the latest version is stored completely as a set of first identification tags; which is readable as repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most recent version format based on the update message until a final update message having an upgraded version format is generated (see cols. 1 and 2, lines 56-58 and 1-3). Also, in columns 4 and 15; lines 1 through 5; and 42 through 49, Flynn teaches the step of the delta changes are encoded representations of the changes that are used to generate an older version of an information object or index entry from the latest version; and teaches the prior field/value pair is moved from the latest version of the object to the prior version, the object id is then removed from the latest version of the set index entries for the modified field/value pair was removed. Further, Flynn teaches another approach is to store the version together in which case versions after the original information object may only need to be represented by their differences from the previous version. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Flynn with the step of repeatedly generating a revised update message having a next most recent version format based on the update message until a final update message having an upgraded version format is generated. This modification would allow the teachings of Flynn to provide a user with an historical perspective into database of information objects through an efficient method and apparatus for versioning information objects stored in a database as well as an index representative of the information objects (see col. 3, lines 32-37).

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As per claims 2, 6, and 10, in addition the discussion in claim 1, Flynn teaches calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first update message to generate a second update message (thus, the latest versions of each one of the information objects and each one of the entries in the index are maintained in the database, partial versions of each one of the information objects and each one of the index entries are stored with the latest versions, the partial versions contain only sufficient information about the differences between the earlier versions and the later ones so that any early version may be reconstructed, which is readable as calling a next most recent version mapping function to map contents of the first update message to generate a second update message) (see abstract, lines 6-14).

As per claims 3, 7, and 11 Flynn substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the update message includes a set of records for a database in the first version (thus, the changes are stored as incremental backup changes to the information objects and index entries for each time the objects or index entries were changed, which is readable as wherein the update message includes a set of records for a database in the first version) (see col. 4, lines 34-37).

As per claims 4, 8, and 12 Flynn substantially teaches a method as claimed, wherein the set of records for the database in the first version is a complete set of records for the database (thus, a database of information objects is maintained on the disk drive or some other storage medium in the computer system, achieves versioning by maintaining complete latest versions of each one of the plurality of information objects and each one of the plurality of index entries in the index, the latest version refers to a version of an information object that reflects the most

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recent state of an information object; which is readable as wherein the set of records for the database in the first version is a complete set of records for the database) (see col. 3, lines 43-55). Also in column 4, lines 34 through 37, Flynn teaches the step of the changes are stored as incremental backup changes to the information objects and index entries for each time the objects or index entries were changed.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Southgate US Patent Number 6,205,579 relates to a method for providing software technical support, and provides a method by which software upgrades and fixes for software bugs may be incorporated into a customer's software from the remote location.

*Conclusion*

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication from examiner should be directed to Jean Bolte Fleurantin at (703) 308-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.

If any attempt to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mrs. KIM VU can be reached at **(703) 305-8449**. The FAX phone number is **(703) 305-9731**.

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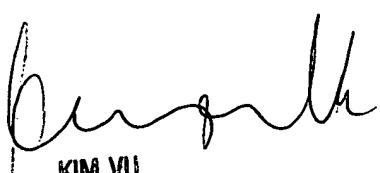
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone is (703) 305-9600.

Jean Bolte Fleurantin

Jean Bolte Fleurantin

August 23, 2001

JBF/

  
KIM VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100